

February 3, 1970

Dear Harold (cc:GRS),

I spent about half an hour with Charles Garry this morning. I gave him both parts of COUP, 0 in N.O., some documents I xeroxed (the Milteer CD's, the Bill Barry story on the Miami tape, Ferrie's statement from CD 75, the Drennan page from CD 64.1, and the last ~~two~~ two pages of your COUP addition, but not the CD's on Vallee), and the one-page summary I sent you earlier. He read the latter ~~item~~ item and indicated ~~me~~ that he would work on the rest of it while traveling. (I didn't mention the confidential nature of your work, which I think was made pretty clear in your letters.) We did not discuss these threats against JFK in any detail, but he did ask where he could get more on Vallee. (This was after I mentioned Groth's part in this incident as well as the Chicago raids.) I said you would probably send the relevant records to me when you could. We chatted briefly about such topics of general interest as Oswald, Ray, did Ruby know Oswald, etc. Garry seemed to have a layman's interest in the various assassinations. He felt that Garrison's perjury charge against Shaw was quite improper, and described the Shaw trial as a farce. We didn't discuss the relevance of your material to the Hilliard case in detail, but I got the impression that the main defense would be "political hyperbole" - i.e., "We will kill Richard Nixon" is a colloquial expression. He did clarify that the law under which Hilliard is charged is an old one, not the one that was passed after the JFK assassination; this might make the cases we have more relevant than I had thought. I left my name and address; I wouldn't be surprised either if he does or doesn't get in touch with me. Perhaps in a few weeks I will get some of the Vallee material to him anyhow.

Your mailing of the 28th received. I am enclosing 2 copies of the Davison clippings, since you will probably want to give one to someone else. It seems quite likely that someone who knows of Mrs. Davison's reputation socially might be able to tell us that Davison's story on why he gave LHO/Marina the address is completely ridiculous. If you have a trusted Atlanta source, we could ask him. The only other think I can think of to check ~~is~~ is two files at the Archives - the State Dept. file, and GA-1-Air Force. Most of the latter should be about Pic, but it should be gone through for any indications that the Air Force got anything about LHO from their man in Moscow. At some point someone has to talk to Davison, and I would say sooner rather than later. If there was anything to his contact with LHO, he knows it and will be on his guard. Nonetheless, there are several significant responses we might get from him. If he clams up on this topic, we might conclude that he was told not to discuss it. If he strongly denies ever having talked to the FBI or SS about it, we might get him to talk by then showing him the documentary stuff we have. If he is willing to confirm his earlier story in detail, he should be willing to fill in the gaps - motive, etc. I think it would be best if he were approached by someone other than a Commission critic, who could get into a discussion about defectors and Oswald indirectly. Did you ever get in touch with David Wise (or Thomas Ross)? Another possibility would be Joe Goulden, who may still have an interest in the JFK case. Also, Harwood, Sherrill, or Fred Cook. I would be surprised if none of these would want to jump on this story, even at this late date. To get them interested I expect we would have to give them the notebook entry, but could hold off on the other material. Can you work on some or all of these reporters? If not I will write them.

I have had no contact with Nichols for several months, so I will keep out of the latest problems. Do let me know if he goes to court or publishes anything.

I gather that the damage to the copies of COUP I sent was not enough to justify claiming the insurance. I will be more careful next time. The copies I made were for Mary, Hal, Gary, Dick, and Charles Garry. On the transcripts, I am quite willing to make copies for people. Just let me know who can't get what, I haven't received the Texas microfilm or the FPCC film printout which Bud was going to send; could you remind him?